CYBER ASSESSMENT FACT SHEET

Vulnerability Scanning

September 2023

OVERVIEW

CISA's Vulnerability Scanning (VS) is persistent "internet scanning-as-a-service" and part of CISA's service offerings. VS service continuously assesses the health of your internet-accessible assets by checking for known vulnerabilities, weak configurations—or configuration errors—and suboptimal security practices. VS service also recommends ways to enhance security through modern web and email standards.

VS service includes:

- **Target Discovery** identifies all active internet-accessible assets (networks, systems, and hosts) to be scanned
- **Vulnerability Scanning** initiates non-intrusive checks to identify potential vulnerabilities and configuration weaknesses

OBJECTIVES

- Maintain enterprise awareness of your internet-accessible systems.
- Provide insight into how systems and infrastructure appear to potential attackers.
- Drive proactive mitigation of vulnerabilities and reduce risk

PHASES

Pre-Planning	Planning	Execution	Post-Execution
Stakeholder: • Requests service. • Provides target list (scope) • Signs and returns documents	**CISA:** • Confirms scanning schedule • Sends pre-scan notification to stakeholder	**CISA:** • Performs initial scan of submitted scope • Rescans scope based on detected vulnerability severity: ⇒ 12 hours for "critical" ⇒ 24 hours for "high" ⇒ 4 days for "medium" ⇒ 6 days for "low" ⇒ 7 days for "no vulnerabilities"	**CISA:** • Delivers weekly report to stakeholder • Provides vulnerability mitigation recommendations to stakeholder • Provides detailed findings in consumable format to stakeholder

HOW TO GET STARTED

Contact vulnerability@cisa.dhs.gov to get started. Please keep in mind:

- CISA's assessments are available to both public and private organizations at no cost.
- Service availability is limited; service delivery timelines are available upon request. CISA prioritizes service delivery queues on a continuous basis to ensure no stakeholder/sector receives a disproportionate allocation of resources and the data collected is a diverse representation of the nation.